Statement-I

Details of wildlife products seized during last two years

Year	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant Tusks
2003-04	7 kg bones, 17 skins, 1 skeleton, 23 nails, 1 head	84 skins, 3 skulls, 1 mounts, 5 kg bones & teeth,	44
2004-05	2 skins	60 skins, 14 teeth of leopard/tiger, 60 kg. paws of tiger/leopard, 3 kg claws to tiger/leopard, 10 pairs jaws of tiger/leopard, 40 small bones of tiger/leopard	27

Statement-II

Details of poaching of animals during last one year

Year	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant
2004-05	1	—	17

Ganga dolphin

2102. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn toward the media report regarding the Ganga Dolphins, both protected and endangered species which are being mercilessly butchered by poachers and fishermen for oil; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the steps proposed to be taken to save this endangered and threatened species whose extinction may upset the rivers ecology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. No such reports have been received.

(b) The following steps have been taken to conserve the Ganga Dolphins:

1. The Gangetic Dolphin has been included in Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 providing maximum protection to the species.
2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has funded to carry out studies on Habitat Preference, Population Dynamics, Reproduction and Ecology of the Ganga River Dolphin.
3. A research project on conservation of Dolphins in river Ganga was sanctioned under Ganga Action Plan from during 1991 to March 1996.
4. For preventing any poaching, the State Government keep a strict vigil by river patrolling.

Additional force to stop poaching of tigers

2103. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to delpoy additional forces to stop poaching of tigers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken on poachers who have been apprehended; and

(d) the details of the efforts to keep vigil to avoid incidents of tiger poaching in tiger parks of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Central Assistance is provided for deployment of special protection squads to complement the field staff, based on proposals received from States within the ambit of Project Tiger Guidelines.

(c) Such records are not maintained at the Government of India Level.